



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

FIRST SECTION - GENERAL AFFAIRS

No. 124.969

From the Vatican, 3 October 2009

Your Excellency,

I am pleased to acknowledge your Letter N. 05167/2009 of September 2009, in which you requested a message from the Holy Father for the participants of the upcoming World Congress of SIGNIS. I would now ask you kindly to transmit the following response:

“MR. ALVITO DE SOUZA
SECRETARY GENERAL
SIGNIS
310, RUE ROYALE
1210 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

HIS HOLINESS WAS PLEASED TO BE INFORMED OF THE WORLD CONGRESS OF SIGNIS TAKING PLACE IN CHIANG MAI, THAILAND ON OCTOBER 17-21. HE SENDS HIS CORDIAL GREETINGS TO ALL THOSE TAKING PART. THE NECESSITY FOR RESPONSIBLE DIRECTION AND USE OF THE MEDIA, IN ITS MESSAGE AND ITS METHODS, APPLIES IN A PARTICULAR WAY TO THE YOUNG. THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MEDIA ‘CAN BE CONSIDERED FROM TWO PERSPECTIVES: THE FORMATION OF CHILDREN BY THE MEDIA; AND THE FORMATION OF CHILDREN TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO THE MEDIA’ (*Message for the 41st World Communications Day, 2007*). HIS HOLINESS IS CONFIDENT THAT YOUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CHILDREN’S RIGHTS AND TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATORS TO MAKE SUCH RIGHTS A PRIORITY IN THEIR WORK WILL BEAR FRUIT IN A CULTURE OF PEACE. THE HOLY FATHER INVOKES THE INTERCESSION OF MARY, TO WHOM THE ANGEL GABRIEL DELIVERED THE GOOD NEWS OF THE ANNUNCIATION, THAT SHE MAY INSPIRE YOU TO BRING ‘PEACE TO ALL MEN OF GOOD WILL’ THROUGH THE MEDIA, AND HE GLADLY IMPARTS UPON YOU, YOUR FAMILIES AND YOUR COLLABORATORS, HIS APOSTOLIC BLESSING.

CARDINAL TARCISIO BERTONE
SECRETARY OF STATE”.

With thanks for your valued assistance, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

The Most Reverend Claudio M. Celli
President
Pontifical Council for Social Communications
VATICAN CITY